

## **Frank Braham (1859-1911)**

Perforating Machine Maker,  
Sub-Postmaster, and Stamp Perforator.

A Study of the Man and his Legacy\* to Collectors.



\* Mainly bits of perforated paper and a handful of countermarked French centimes!

**Compiled by Roy Gault.**

## **Contents**

### **Section 1**

- **Frank Braham - Family Tree.**
- **The Bristol Connection.**
- **Frank Braham - Working Life 1881-1911.**
- **Notable events in Frank Braham's Working Life.**
- **Bankruptcy 1905/6.**
- **The 'Printing & Stamp Perforating Co'.**
- **Tabernacle Street Post Office - post Braham years.**
- **Braham's successor - William Lloyd Kenny.**
- **Ipswich Perfins - William Day.**
- **13-Pin and 14-Pin Type Ia "&" studies.**
- **Postal Stationery etc.**
- **Acknowledgements.**

### **Section 2**

- **Braham Documents, Advertisements, and Artefacts.**

### **Section 3**

- **The 'Acle' Hoard - 'Braham Proofs'.**
- **Other 'known' Braham Dies.**

### **Section 4**

- **Braham's 'Standardized' Alphabet (Type IIIa "&").**

### **Section 5**

- **Possible Braham Dies - List.**
- **13-pin and 14-pin Type Ia "&" - Lists.**

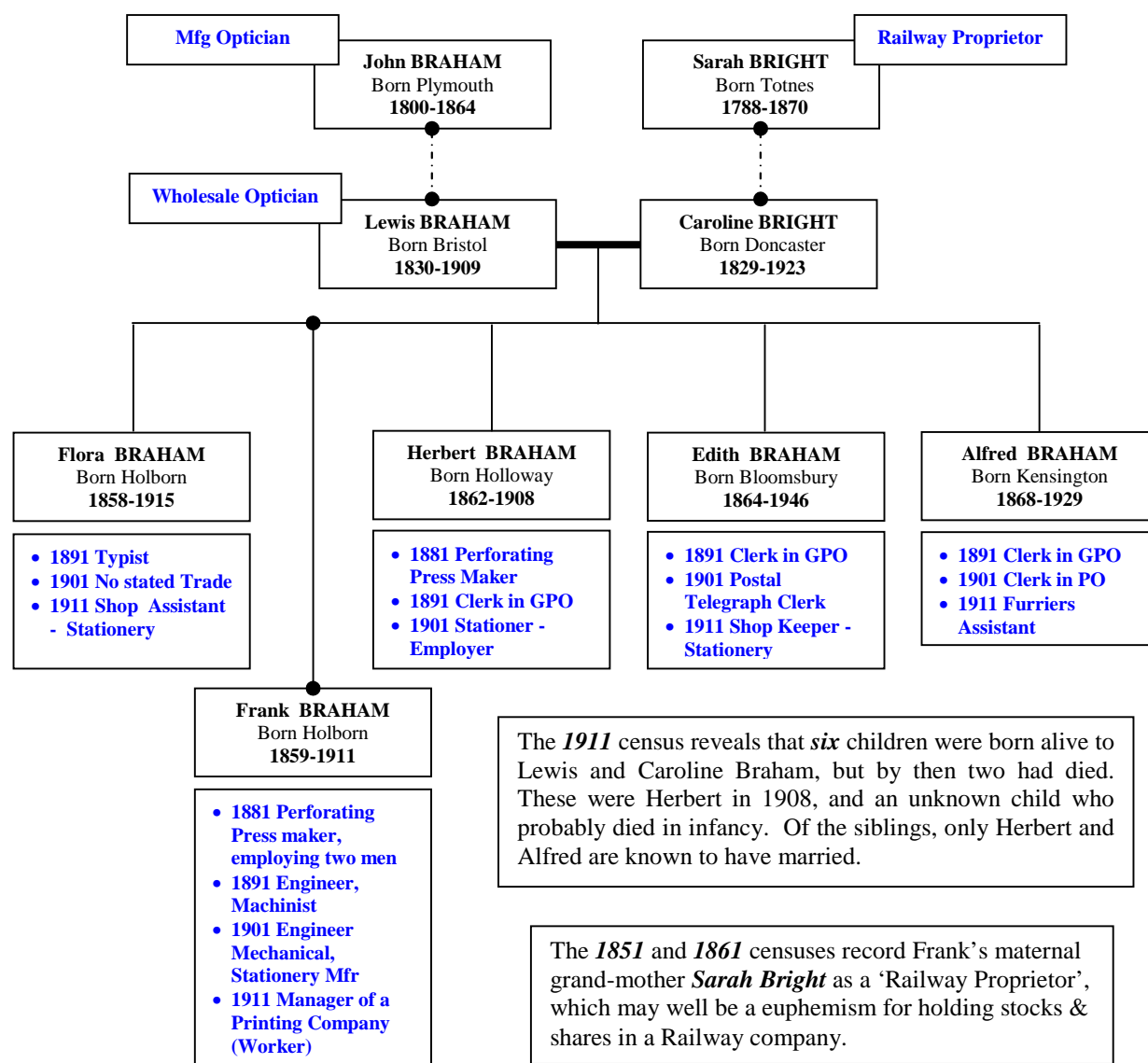
### **Section 6**

- **Possible Braham Dies - Silhouettes.**
- **13-pin and 14-pin Type Ia "&" - Silhouettes.**

**Frank Braham - Family Tree.**

The original research carried out by *John Mathews*, (see Bulletin N<sup>o</sup>.342 - June 2006), has been further refined and presented here visually as a partial family tree.

For convenience I will start with Frank's father, *Lewis Braham*, who was born in Bristol on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 1830, the son of *John & Henrietta Braham*. The 1851 census shows that John Braham (Frank's grandfather) was born at Plymouth and that he was a Manufacturing Optician, employing 2 men. It also shows that Lewis's brother Henry (born Bristol, c1830) was an Optician and Importer, and that Lewis himself was a Commercial T(raveller) {Optician}. Lewis also had another brother Frederick (born Bristol, c1832), listed as an Assistant Optician, so clearly the Braham's were a business-minded family. The significance of *Bristol* will be dealt with a little later on. Frank's mother, *Caroline Braham (nee Bright)* was born at Doncaster on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1829, and lived to the ripe old age of 93.



Also worthy of note is that *John Braham* and *Henrietta Braham* both died in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 1864, registered at Pancras, London. Perhaps a family tragedy lies behind these close dates?

**The Bristol Connection - a 'thinly disguised advertisement'.**

The following 'letter', originally published in the *Bristol Mercury & Daily Post* on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 1883, was featured in the Perfin Society Bulletin (Nº.368 - October 2010).

**PERFORATED POSTAGE STAMPS,**  
*To the Editor of the Mercury and Post,*  
 SIR—The case of Helen Hunt, who stands committed for trial, causes me to draw public attention to a system of perforating postage stamps, used extensively by the leading London houses, to prevent such theft as she is charged with. I desire, in the public interest, to draw the attention of your numerous readers to the fact that, at the Post-office, Tabernacle-square, E.C., I have had as few as £5 worth of postage stamps perforated (such perforated stamps cannot be paid into the Post-office or turned into money) with five initials, free of all cost, merely the actual value of the stamps being paid. I think such a boon cannot be too widely known, as it does to a great extent prevent theft, and removes temptation, the first step to the downfall of many an honest person.  
 Apologising for intruding on your valuable space,  
 I am, yours truly, SIWEL,  
 January 25th,

**Maurice Harp**, Perfin Society Bulletin Editor, said in his article ...

*I was unable to find out exactly what the case of Helen Hunt was but I presume it entailed the theft of stamps. The writer recommends the use of perforated postage stamps as supplied from the Post Office at Tabernacle Square. During this period Frank Braham was the sub-postmaster at Tabernacle Square. Although we don't know the exact dates of Braham's operation we, know from directories that he provided a perforation service from at least 1882 to 1906. Braham became bankrupt in 1906 and his business was taken over by W L Kenny in 1907 who continued the operation at the Tabernacle Street Post Office.*

**John Mathews**, responded in the following Bulletin (Nº. 369 - December 2010), part of which is reproduced here.

*This latest reported letter is different in a number of aspects {to ones written by Josphe Sloper}. Firstly, it was written 15 years after the perforating of postage stamps had been approved. Secondly, it names a specific supplier of perforated stamps - the Post Office at Tabernacle Square EC. Thirdly, it ends on an apologetic note for taking up space in the newspaper and lastly, the writer uses a nom-de-plume ("Siwel") rather than a real name. These aspects suggested to me that the letter is, in fact, a thinly-disguised advertisement for the perforating service provided by Frank Braham at the Post Office at Tabernacle Square. I was therefore curious as to who the writer of the letter really was.*

*Frank's father was Lewis Braham - the nom-de-plume "Siwel" is "Lewis" spelled backwards, and Lewis was born in Bristol! His letter was written shortly after the 23 year-old Frank started perforating stamps. So it would seem that this may have been Lewis's way of promoting his son's new business in his home town.*

**Frank Braham - Working Life 1881-1911.**

Frank Braham is first shown in a London Trade Directory in 1882 as a Perforating Machine Manufacturer, and from 1886 also as a Perforator of Postage Stamps. However, the 1881 Census (taken on the night of 3<sup>rd</sup> April) records Frank's occupation as a Perforating Press Maker, *employing* 2 men. His brother Herbert Braham is also recorded as a Perforating Press maker, so presumably he was one of the two men employed by Frank Braham. This proves that Frank Braham was employed in the business of making perforating machines, if not actually perforating postage stamps as well, from at least early in 1881.

This list, recording Frank Braham's occupation taken from London Trade Directories, was compiled by *James Gavin Scott*, author of *British Countermarks on Copper & Bronze Coins*.

**Perforated Press Maker.**

1882	51 Hoxton Square, London N.
1883-1884	51 Hoxton Square, London N, and 8 Tabernacle Square, London EC.
1885	51 Hoxton Square, London N, and 142 Tabernacle Street, London EC.

**Perforating Press Maker and Perforator (Initials) of Postage Stamps.**

1886-1890	51 Hoxton Square, London N, and 93 Tabernacle Street London EC.
1891	91 Tabernacle Street, London EC.
1892-1894	91 Tabernacle Street, London EC, and 47 Rivington Street, London EC.
1895-1898	91 Tabernacle Street, London EC, and 11 Rivington Street, London EC.
1899-1901	91 Tabernacle Street, London EC, and Works, Rivington Street, London EC.

The reason for the list of addresses is this French bronze 10 centimes piece countermarked

**“SEE BRAHAM’S AD<sup>VT</sup> IN POSTAL GUIDE”**



Actual size



Actual size

The “B” below the eagle is the mint mark for Rouen.

This Napoleon III 10 centimes piece dates to 1853-1857, just before Frank Braham was born, and was probably countermarked in the **mid to late 1880's\***.

\* Similar pieces can be found countermarked “**Pears’ Soap**”. The coins themselves were specially imported from France, and as such were generally accepted as pennies over here as they were roughly the same size as the British penny. The “**Pears’ Soap**” underprints produced by De La Rue on Queen Victoria ½d Vermillion and 1d Lilac postage stamps are known to date to around 1889, and are likely to be contemporary.





**Notable events in Frank Braham's working life.****1881-1882**

From the **1881** census we know that Frank Braham was a Perforating Press Maker, but by the autumn of **1882** he has become sufficiently well established for Thomas Cook & Sons to write to the Daily News extolling the virtues of a 'stamp perforating service' conducted at the post office in Tabernacle Square. Although not mentioned specifically by name, this must surely refer to Frank Braham.

Transcription of a letter from *Thomas Cook & Son*, Tourists' Contractors, Ludgate Circus, extracted from "The Daily News" Sep 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1882.

**PERFORATION OF POSTAGE STAMPS**

(To the Editor of The Daily News)

*Referring to a letter in your issue of today, we may say that we in common with many city firms, have all our stamps perforated with initials at the Post Office in Tabernacle Square, free of charge. The postmaster is the inventor of a well-known system of perforating postage stamps, and the rule is for us to order a quantity of sheets of postage stamps, and they are delivered to us the following day on payment of their exact value, no expense being incurred for their perforation or delivery.*

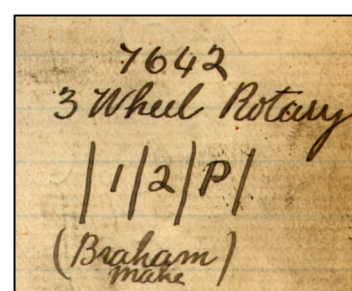
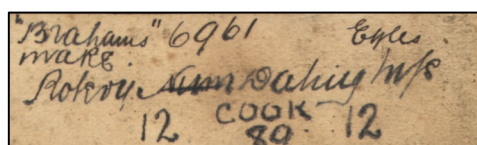
*We are, yours respectfully, Thos. Cook and Son, London August 29th 1882.*

**1886**

Relatively early on in his career, Frank Braham was censured by the Post office. Late in **1886** a complaint from a firm of solicitors, 'Bower, Cotton & Bower', was sent to the GPO regarding the use of the heraldic device and date-stamp of the Tabernacle Street post office on his circulars. The GPO investigated, and Frank Braham was threatened with the termination of his appointment as Postmaster unless he followed the official line, and was ordered to destroy his circulars.

**1889**

While checking the Sloper Records in 1993, *John Mathews* noticed on the m/s entry for Sloper machine N<sup>o</sup>.6961 the annotation "*Braham's make*" and "*Rotary Dating m/c*". The die referred to in the workbook is dated "12 89 12", with '89' signifying **1889**. This reference is probably to a repair carried out on an earlier 'Braham' machine rather than a new build by Joseph Sloper to Braham's design. Another similar example is shown for m/c N<sup>o</sup>.7642, dating to c1894.



**1892-1893**

On 30<sup>th</sup> August **1892** Frank Braham wrote to *Barclay & Fry*, printers of the 1893-1896 issue of postage stamps for the 'Shanghai' Local Post.

*I shall be willing to perforate for you, sheets of stamps (Shanghai Corps) perfectly, and in a similar manner to those used by the British Government and as produced by De La Rue & Co, for the sum of one penny per sheet of stamps. The various sizes of stamps shall make no difference in price and to redeliver to you the same in as good a condition as you leave them to me in quires of 25 sheets.*

Worthy of note is the letter-head which is perforated:

**F. BRAHAM - PERFORATING PRESS MAKER**

along with the legend 'Postage Stamps Perforated',  
and 'Stamps Over Printed for Receipts'.

The letter is signed by Frank Braham himself. >>>



Further correspondence between Frank Braham and Barclay & Fry culminated in a letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> April **1893** offering to perforate the stamps for 50 shillings per 1,000 sheets for the first 25,000 sheets, after which the price would be reduced to 45 shillings per 1,000 sheets. It is not known if any 'Shanghai Local Post' stamps were ever perforated, but I suspect not.

**c1895**

In his book, 'The History of British Security Stamps - Overprinted and Perforated' (1968), *Charles Jennings* quotes a Braham Advertisement from the *turn of the century* which points to a handful of dies which Frank Braham *may* have made.

The advert lists eight of Braham's clients.

- The London, Chatham & Dover Railway Co.
- Thomas Cook & Sons - "TC/&S" (T1100.01).
- The Joint Stock Bank.
- **The City Bank**\* - "CITY/BANK" (C3790.01). {Est 1855, Reg 1880, Vol Liq **1898**}.
- The Union Bank - {the Union Bank of London Ltd?}.
- The Birkbeck Bank - "BIRK/BECK" (B3700.01/02/03M). {Est 1851, Liquidated 1911}.
- **The London & South Western Bank**\* - "LSW/B<sup>k</sup>" (L5160.02/03), "LSW/B<sup>k</sup>." (L5170.02).
- James Shoolbread & Co - "JS/&C<sup>o</sup>" (J6970.01), "J.S/&C<sup>o</sup>." (J6980.03).

\* These were Frank Braham's banks. He used 'City Bank' early on in his career, and later on the 'London & South Western Bank' after his bankruptcy.

**1905**

Frank's brother Herbert was involved in the business from the very early days, and is also mentioned by name in the *bankruptcy papers filed on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1905*. The implication here is that Herbert Braham had always worked for his brother Frank, even in 1891 where his occupation in the census was described as a Clerk in GPO - quite possibly in Frank Braham's Tabernacle Street Post Office!

**1906 - Aftermath of Frank Braham's Bankruptcy.**

The following is a précis of the research at the Post Office Archives carried out in 1990 by *Stephen Steere*, and a direct result of the bankruptcy of Frank Braham.

In 1906 occurred "*the Bankruptcy of a Town Sub-Postmaster who carried on a Stamp Perforation business, and the loss of large sums of money {£4,000} entrusted to him by Customers for Stamps*". This obviously created concern that such losses could be associated with the Post Office rather than the Sub-Postmaster acting in a private capacity. The Sub-Postmaster concerned was Frank Braham of Tabernacle Street, London EC.

The Secretary to the Post Office asked the Controller of Stamps on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 1906 to see whether arrangements could be made for *the business of perforating stamps with initials to be undertaken officially*, either at Somerset House or at the Contractor's works.

The Controller of Stamps replied on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 1906 stating that the Stamp Contractors, De la Rue & Co, said that they could *not* undertake the work of perforating the Stamps. Moreover it was also conceivable that, if the perforation were done here before issue to the Public, *Philatelists* would regard each lot of Stamps bearing certain perforated letters as a distinct issue, and so create a fictitious value for the Stamps, thereby destroying the safeguard which the perforation was intended to set up. In any case it would scarcely be practicable to prohibit private perforation, and if the Department competed with private firms, the latter would no doubt charge lower rates than any the Department might adopt, with the result that they would still secure the greater part of the work. He concluded that 'on the whole, my opinion is that it is better not to interfere with private enterprise'.

A report along these lines was sent to the Postmaster General on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 1906, who accepted the findings, and instructed a notice to be placed in the Post Office Guide as follows:

*Stamps may, however, be perforated with initials provided that the perforating holes are no larger than those dividing one stamp from another in a sheet of stamps.*

It was also suggested that Sub-Postmasters who undertake the work should be required to show on their order forms that their stamp perforation business has *no connection with the Post Office*, and that a note should be added to the effect that the Postmaster General is not liable for the delivery of stamps perforated with initials.

In essence, the work of perforating stamps with initials was left to private enterprise, and that any Sub-Postmasters who undertook the business did so in their private capacity and not as agents of the Postmaster General, who had no responsibility whatsoever in the matter. This recommendation was adopted and a notice to that effect put in the Post Office Guide.

There is also a relevant and an interesting item in the archives publishing the results of a Survey of the use of perfins in the London EC district undertaken at the time (1906). During the survey, about 20% of the 11 million letters *posted* weekly within the EC district, and about 6% of the 5 million items *delivered* weekly within the EC district bore perfinned stamps. This means that *2½ million* items with Perfinned stamps were processed in London EC during a *one week period*, which equates to *130 million* perfinned items per annum in London EC alone!



**1906-1911**

After his bankruptcy, it would appear that Frank Braham wasted no time in setting up another company - the ***Printing & Stamp Perforating Co***, 9 Smith Street, Finsbury, London EC. Details of this company emerged from the research undertaken at the Post Office Archives by ***Stephen Steere***, and a little later on by ***Alastair Walter***.

In a report on Perforators made to the Controller of Posts in ***May 1906*** we learn a little more!

*The Printing & Stamp Perforating Co, which has **only recently started**, appears to be more or less under the management of Messrs Braham, late of Tabernacle Street TSO. Judging from their known purchases of stamps, their present business is at the rate of about £750 a week or - say - £40,000 a year and is increasing. Their usual charge appears to be 10/- per cent on ordinary stamps but it is likely that lower rates are accepted in some cases, as it is known that was done by Messrs Braham when at Tabernacle Street. One of their order forms is attached.*

**The Printing & Stamp Perforating Co., Ltd.,**  
**9, SOUTH STREET, FINSBURY, E.C.**

As well as perforating stamps and making perforating machines, the company also overprinted stamps, although they charged 1% for this service compared to 0.5% for perforating.

The ***Printing & Stamp Perforating Co*** is known listed in London Trade Directories for 1908, and 1910, with Frank Braham at the helm. However, in the 1911 Census (taken for the night of Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1911) Frank Braham, still unmarried, is living in Highbury with one of his sisters Edith Braham, his mother Caroline Braham, and another sister Flora Braham. He is described as a ***Manager*** of a Printing Company - Printing Works - ***Worker***. The ***death of Frank Braham***, aged 52 yrs, is recorded in the 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr of 1911 at Romford, Essex.

**Tabernacle Street Post Office - the post Braham years.**

After the bankruptcy of Frank & Herbert Braham late in 1905, the Post Office records show that in ***1907*** W L Kenny took over the Sub-Post Office in Tabernacle St. When interviewed by the Post Office for the vacant position, and in answer to a direct question, Kenny stated he would ***not*** be taking over the perforating side of the business. However, a year later, he wrote to the Post Office saying that ***'The perforating of stamps which I formerly had done through Sloper's, I will now be doing myself and enclose a sample form for approval'***. Only the letterhead of the sample form has been illustrated here.

ORDERED.  
**W. L. KENNY,**  
91, Tabernacle Street,  
AND 75, SCRUTTON STREET, E.C.

It must surely have been the perforating service that proved overwhelmingly attractive to him in order to secure the lucrative postage stamp business of commercial firms. W L Kenney was still the Sub-Postmaster at 91 Tabernacle St in ***1915***.

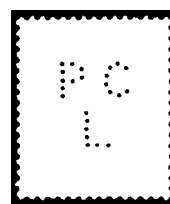
**William Lloyd Kenny (1868-1930)**

The birth of **William Lloyd Kenny** was registered at Islington during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr of 1868. His father was William Kenny (1841-1886), an Account's Clerk in the 1871 census, living at 11 Lucas St, Greenwich, London. By 1881 William Sen<sup>r</sup> was a Grocer & Cheesemonger at N<sup>o</sup>. 35 Shere Rd, Deptford. William Kenny died in 1886, aged 46 years.

The next two censuses show William Lloyd Kenny as a **Grocer (and Dairy Man)** living with his mother Judith (widow) at N<sup>o</sup>. 35 Shere Rd, Deptford (1891), and N<sup>o</sup>. 9 Princess Rd, St Pancras (1901). In 1911 William Lloyd Kenny is a **Stationer & Sub-Postmaster** at N<sup>o</sup>. 91 Tabernacle St, London EC. During his tenure of the Sub-Post Office in Tabernacle Street, he also continued his grocery business, trading initially under his own name, then from 1915 in partnership with Thomas Stevenson as **W L Kenny & Co**. The partnership was dissolved in August 1926. William Lloyd Kenny died in 1930 at Greenwich, aged 62 yrs. The 'Lloyd' part of his name celebrates his mother's maiden name.

**Tabernacle Street Post Office Cancels!**

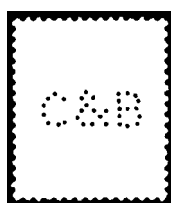
1895-1930



P1020.01

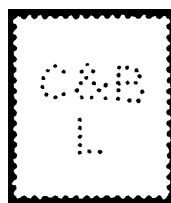
"PC/L" (P1020.01), user as yet unknown, but known used 1895-1930, is also recorded with **Tabernacle St, E.C.** postmarks! Two examples are shown above, one of which dates to Frank Braham's tenure, and the other from William Lloyd Kenny's.

1885-1915



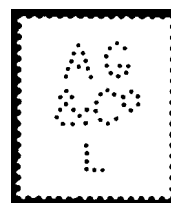
C0500.01

1895-1905



C0840.02

1885-1939



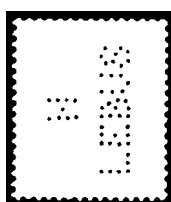
A2537.01

Examples of 'Tabernacle St' postmarks have also been reported on the following two 'Braham' dies. "C&B" (C0500.01), is known on a QV ½d (verm), with '...berna...' visible.

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User
1	C0500.01	C&B	1885-1915	Anatole Carlhian & Beaumetz, London EC.
2	C0840.02	C&B/L	1895-1905	User unknown - (T)abernacl(e St), London EC pmks.

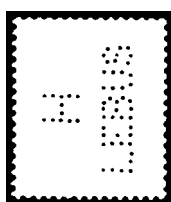
Also worthy of note is that Alfred Goslett & Co Ltd, Plate and Window Glass Merchants, are known to have used 'Braham' die "AG/&C<sup>o</sup>/L" (A2537.01). Their factory was in Tabernacle Street, but to date, no Tabernacle Street postmarks have been reported on the Perfin.

1905-1915



H4350.01

1895-1905



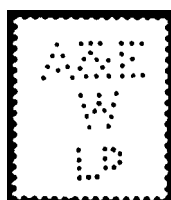
H4350.02

There is one more user in *Tabernacle Street* worth pointing out - *Harris Lebus*, Cabinet & Furniture Maker, and Upholsterer, 61-72 Tabernacle St, London EC. Their 'Finsbury' Works were in Tottenham, London N.

The company used two dies, both of which show unusual, but still characteristic lettering, pointing to Frank Braham. Again, Tabernacle Street postmarks have not been recorded against either die, but it's worth looking out for them.

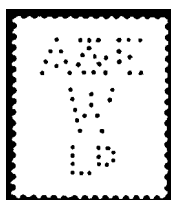
### An 'Enigma' - Beware!

1902-1941



A2160.01

c1900



A2160.01a

Based on the use of a 'shortened' "L<sup>d</sup>", seen so often in the Braham 'Limited Pairs', the two dies to the left could quite reasonably be expected to be the product of Frank Braham. However, both show 4-pin high lettering on the top line and the use of a completely different ampersand type!

The company was almost certainly *A & E Walter Ltd*, Printing Contractors, *Tabernacle St*, London EC, who were known customers of *J Sloper & Co*. The later die was single headed, and probably destroyed in the "Blitz" on Sloper's premises on the night of the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> May 1941.

### William Day (1852-1921)

1900-1905



W1895.01

**William Day** was born at Ipswich in 1852, son of Mary Ann and Robert Day, Green Grocer, Ipswich.

William is recorded as a *Gardener* in the 1871 census, but by 1881 he is a *Grocer & Provision Merchant*, employing an apprentice, at 46 St Nicholas Street, Ipswich. He is still there in 1891 but as a *Grocer & Sub-Postmaster*, and in 1901 as a *Grocer, Sub-Postmaster & Stamp Perforator*. The 1911 census shows him as the *Sub-postmaster* at St Peter's Street Post Office, Ipswich.

Analysis shows that there are a disproportionate number of 'Braham' Perfins known with Ipswich (Suffolk) postmarks, including "W.D.A.Y." (W1895.01), known used on postage stamps 1900-1905. Fortuitously, this is also known on a 'Braham Proof', N<sup>o</sup>.2041, and thought to have been used by *William Day, Grocer & Provisions Dealer, Sub-Postmaster* at 46 St Nicholas St, Ipswich. He later became *Sub-Postmaster* at St Peter's St, Ipswich (by 27<sup>th</sup> July 1907, and still there at the time of the 1911 census). William Day died at Ipswich in 1921.

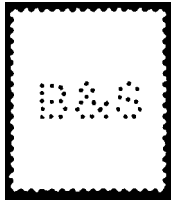
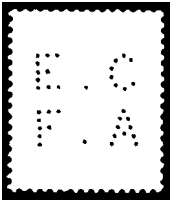
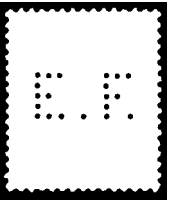
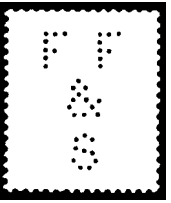
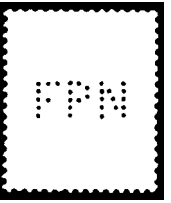
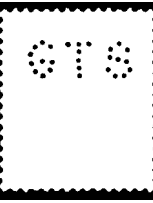
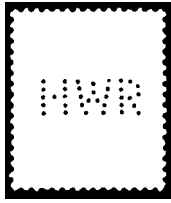
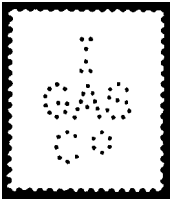
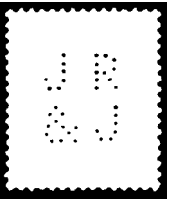
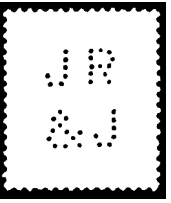
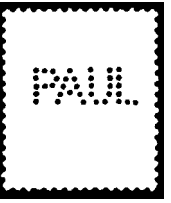
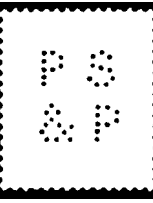
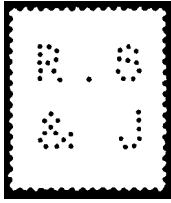
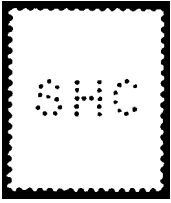
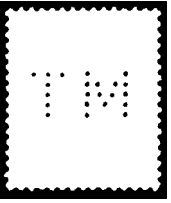

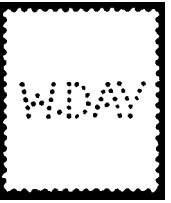
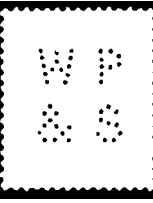
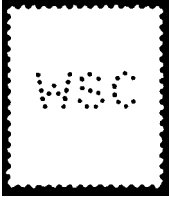
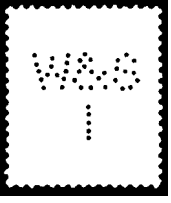
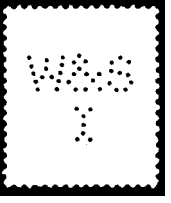
**‘Ipswich’ Perfins**

There is an unusually large number of Ipswich postmarks (currently **21**) found on ‘Braham’ dies. The following are all in the smaller ‘Standardized’ alphabet, *except two* - “E.F.” (E1520.01), which also has the earliest known date, 28<sup>th</sup> February 1891, and “TM” (T3100.01).

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User
<b>1</b>	B6430.01*	B&S	1890-1939	Burton, Son & Sanders Ltd, Grocers, Provision Merchants, etc., Ipswich.
<b>2</b>	E0660.01*	E.C/F.A	1905-1945	The Eastern Counties Farmers’ Co-operative Association Ltd, 86 Princes St, Ipswich. {Est 1904}.
<b>3</b>	E1520.01	E.F.	1890-1915	User unknown. Postmarks Harl...., Ipswich, and London.
<b>4</b>	F1520.01	FF/&S	1895-1912	Ø Frederick Fish & Sons, Dress & Mantle makers, Ipswich.
<b>5</b>	F3320.01	FPN	1890-1908	Footman, Pretty & Nicholson, Drapers, Warehousemen & House Furnishers, Ipswich.
<b>6</b>	G5153.01	GTS	1890-1895	User unknown. Ipswich postmarks.
<b>7</b>	H7825.01	HWR	1890-1895	Ø H W Raffé, Wholesale Grocer, Ipswich.
<b>8</b>	I1080.01	I/GAS/C <sup>o</sup>	1905-1913	Ipswich Gas Light Co, Carr St, Ipswich.
<b>9</b>	J6550.01	JR/&J	1895-1910	J Rands & Jeckell, Sack, Rick-cloth, and Tent Mfrs, Ipswich.
<b>10</b>	J6550.01a	JR/&J	1890-1895	Ø J Rands & Jeckell, Sack, Rick-cloth, and Tent Mfrs, Ipswich.
<b>11</b>	P0280.01*	PAUL 10-pin "P"	1890-1939	R & W Paul, Corn Merchants & Importers, Ipswich.
<b>12</b>	P4430.01	PS/&P	1895-1900	Ø Piper, Son & Phillips, Wholesale Woollen Warehousemen, 40 Butter Market, Ipswich.
<b>13</b>	R4770.01M*	R.S/&J	1895-1954	Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies Ltd, Engineers, Orwell Works, Princess St, Ipswich.
<b>14</b>	S3430.01	SHC	1890-1901	Ø Samuel Harrison Cowell, Stationers, Bookbinders, etc., Ipswich.
<b>15</b>	T3100.01	TM	1902-1910	User unknown. Ipswich postmarks.
<b>16</b>	W0100.01*	W&/AC	1890-1939	W A & A C Churchman Ltd, Cigarette Mfrs, Ipswich.
<b>17</b>	W1895.01	W.DAY	1900-1905	Ø William Day, <b>Sub-Postmaster &amp; Stamp Perforator, Ipswich.</b>
<b>18</b>	W6050.01*	WP/&S 9-pin "P"	1890-1945	W Pretty & Son Ltd, Corset Mfrs, Ipswich.
<b>19</b>	W6750.01*	WSC	1900-1945	W S Cowell Ltd, Printers and Wholesale Rag Merchants, Butter Market, Ipswich. {Ltd in 1901}.
<b>20</b>	W6910.01	W&S/I	1885-1892	Ø Wrinch & Sons Ltd, Horticultural Builders, Ipswich.
<b>21</b>	W6910.02*	W&S/I	1892-1930	Wrinch & Sons Ltd, Horticultural Builders, St Lawrence Works, Ipswich.

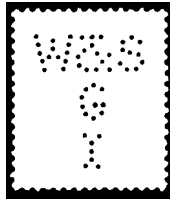
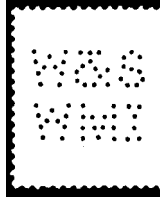
\* Note - These are likely to be perforating machines supplied to the companies involved, rather than supplies of perforated stamps sent out to clients.

## Illustrations of the 'Ipswich' dies.

1890-1939  B6430.01	1905-1945  E0660.01	1890-1915  E1520.01	1895-1912  F1520.01	1890-1908  F3320.01	1890-1895  G5153.01
1890-1895  H7825.01	1905-1913  I1080.01	1895-1910  J6550.01	1890-1895  J6550.01a	1890-1939  P0280.01	1895-1900  P4430.01
1895-1954  R4770.01M	1890-1901  S3430.01	1902-1910  T3100.01	1890-1939  W0100.01	1900-1905  W1895.01	1890-1945  W6050.01
1900-1945  W6750.01	1885-1892  W6910.01	1892-1930  W6910.02			

## There is more work to be done yet!

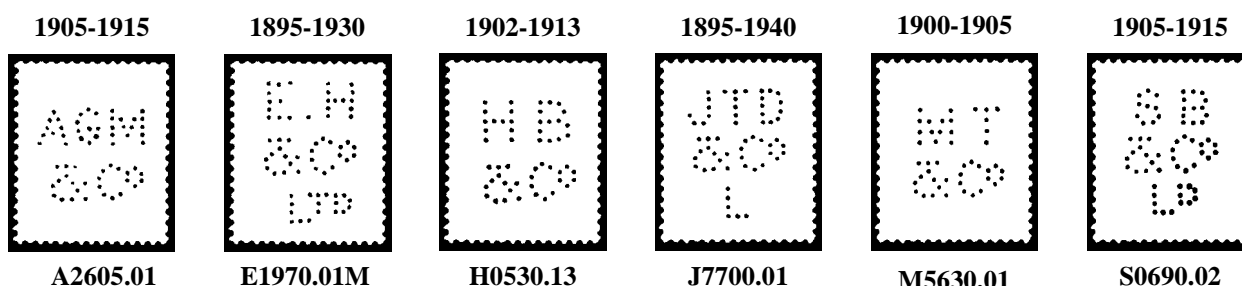
Just to finish off this section with two more 'Ipswich' dies which seem to point to the use of a different type of ampersand, a 13-pin Type Ia with a bulbous bottom! Both types of serif I's found on other suspected Braham dies can be seen. However, neither of the serif I's appear on a Braham 'Proof', so at present it's just conjecture that these were actually produced by Frank Braham.

1900-1903  W6865.01	1900-1901  W7150.01
--	--

In passing, of the **8,360** Perfin dies using an ampersand, there are only **61** with a 13-pin Type Ia, a small enough number to warrant further investigation to see what pattern can be found, if any!

### 13-Pin Type Ia Ampersand Analysis - Results.

Of the **61** known G.B. Perfins using a 13-Pin Type Ia ampersand, eight can be eliminated on the grounds of either first appearing after 1920, or by having a completely different ampersand shape. This leaves **53** Perfins which *may* have been the work of Frank Braham. A full list and set of illustrations has been presented separately under Sections 5 and 6 respectively, but a selection is shown here for reference.

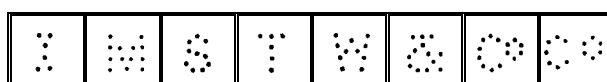


### Observations.

- The majority of the letters used have the same characteristic shape and size as shown for the ‘Standardized’ alphabet illustrated in Section 4.
- Examples of mixed height lettering, as seen in the Braham ‘Proofs’, are also found in this small group with 13-Pin Type Ia ampersands. See “HB/& C<sup>o</sup>” (H0530.13) above.
- **Three** 4-pin high L’s have been used as seen in the ‘Standardized’ alphabet, although no ‘Limited Pairs’ are known. See “JTD/&C<sup>o</sup>/L” (J7700.01) above.
- **Nineteen** different post-towns have been recorded, but **Glasgow** with 20 Dies (37%), and **London EC** with 7 Dies (13%) are well ahead of the chasing pack of four (Birmingham, Ipswich, Liverpool, and Manchester) with 3 Dies (5%) apiece. Under normal circumstances this would point to a Glasgow die maker or Glasgow supplier of Perfined stamps. Perhaps there was an Agent in Glasgow working for Frank Braham much as we believe William Day did in Ipswich.

Comparative figures for the **662** ‘Standardized’ alphabet dies with a 12-pin Type IIIa “&” show a completely opposite spread, with **London EC** on 165 Dies (30%), and **Glasgow** with 36 Dies (5%).

- This group of **53** Perfins generally date from the 1890’s, the earliest actual dates reported being the 11<sup>th</sup> December **1892** on “WM/&C<sup>o</sup>” (W5270.02) used in London E, and 7<sup>th</sup> January **1893** on “J&S/M” (J7150.01) used in Manchester. The earliest Glasgow date is 24<sup>th</sup> November **1896** on “H&S” (H6350.01).
- **Four** Perfins, “I/GAS/C<sup>o</sup>” (I1080.01), “M&M” (M3880.01), “MT/&C<sup>o</sup>” (M5630.01), and “W&S/WMI” (W7150.01) all show at least one 4-pin high letter! Could there be another alphabet here?



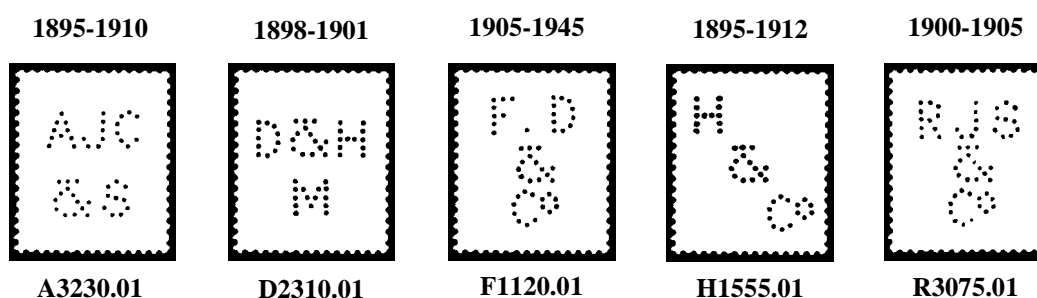


### 14-Pin Type Ia Ampersands.

In 2010, while preparing for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition for the Letter 'R', a couple of characteristic 14-pin Type Ia ampersands came in quick succession ("R&B" and "RB/&S"). This led to a search for more ampersands with this same specification, all of which resulted in the discovery of two distinct groups - an earlier group dating from the late Victorian period with new dies being introduced during the 1890-1905 period, and a much later group with slightly different ampersand shapes, introduced during the 1920-1930 period. At the time only twenty-five dies were found, but we now know the total is *thirty-one*. The analysis of these dies appeared in the February 2011 Bulletin (B370).

And that's where the story would have stayed, but spurred on by the distinct possibility of Frank Braham using a 13-pin Type Ia ampersand as well as his more traditional 12-pin Type IIIa, these 14-pin Type Ia ampersands have now been revisited, and low and behold, the earlier group all have the unmistakable characteristics of Braham's 'Standardized' alphabet!

As a result there are another twenty-four dies we can attribute with some confidence to Frank Braham. A small selection of the dies have been illustrated here for reference, but a full list (including the non-Braham examples) can be found at the end of Section 5, along with a full set of silhouettes (again including the non-Braham examples) at the end of Section 6.



An analysis of the known locations of the users gives the following results:

Birmingham (2), Bristol (1), Cardiff (1), Dublin (1), **Glasgow** (5), Hull (1), Limerick (1),  
**London** (6), Manchester (2), Norwich (1), Stourbridge (3), and Sunderland (1).

Once again, the Perfin scatter covers all four countries, and is similar to the spread of the main sequence of Braham dies, although on this occasion there are no mixed height letterings, and no abbreviated L's etc.

The earliest known date for any of the twenty-four Perfin dies is:

**13<sup>th</sup> March 1892** on "N&H" (N1615.01).

1890-1900



N1615.01

**A final round-up.**

We know from Frank Braham's Advertising Leaflets and Requisition Forms that he 'Perforated the Initials of Firms and others on all kinds of *Revenue & Postage Stamps* of every value for 1d per sheet, as issued from Somerset House.' Stamps could be perforated with any initials within 24 hours, with no charge whatsoever for the die, although orders must be for not less than £5. In some advertisements he specifically mentioned *Telegraph Stamps*, *Foreign Bill*, and *Judicial Stamps*, and originally there was no charge for perforating. He also perforated *Post Cards* and *1/2d Wrappers*, and overprinted receipt stamps.

Space doesn't permit any detailed listing of individual *Postage Stamps* found with 'Braham' Perfins, but the small numbers involved for the other categories makes it possible to list them.

**Adhesive Stamps.**

- **Inland Revenue Stamps** - Just *one* has been recorded.

c1881



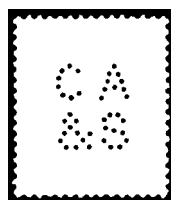
M0185.01

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User	Stamp details
1	M0185.01	M.A.C/Y	c1881	Ø M A Craven & Son, York.	QV 1d - Die n/k.

- **Telegraph Stamps** - None have yet been reported.

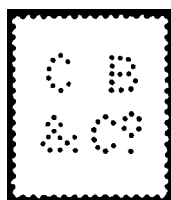
- **Foreign Bills** - Just *five* have been recorded.

1887-1910



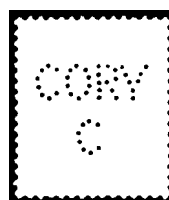
C0310.01

1890-1900



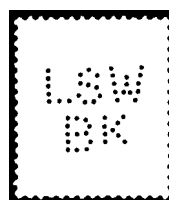
C0655.01

1883-1895



C5620.02

1883-1920



L5160.03

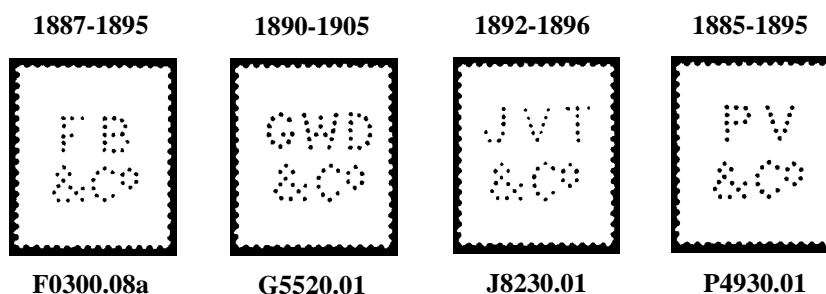
1890-1930



R4820.03

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User	Stamp details
1	C0310.01	CA/&S	1887-1910	Claudius Ash & Sons Ltd, London W.	QV 3/-
2	C0655.01	CB/&C°	1890-1900	Cunliffes, Brooks & Co, Darwen.	QV 4/-
3	C5620.02	CORY/C	1883-1895	Cory Bros Ltd, Cardiff.	QV 1/-, 5/-
4	L5160.03	LSW/B <sup>k</sup>	1883-1920	London & South Western Bank Ltd.	QV 1d, 3d
5	R4820.03	R&S/L	1890-1930	Rylands & Sons Ltd, London EC.	QV 3d

- **Contract Notes** (not specifically listed by Braham) - Just *four* have been recorded, not surprisingly all used by Stock & Share Brokers based in London EC.

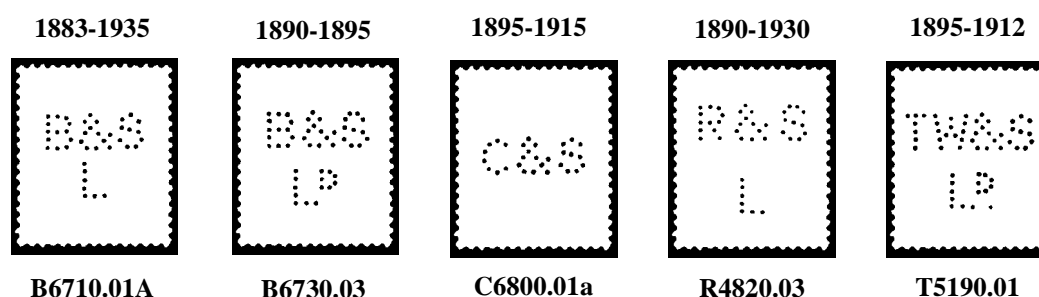


	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User	Stamp details
1	F0300.08a	FB/&C <sup>o</sup>	1887-1895	Faithfull, Begg & Co.	QV 2/-
2	G5520.01	GWD/&C <sup>o</sup>	1890-1905	Ø G W Dawes & Co.	QV 6d, 1/-
3	J8230.01	JVT/&C <sup>o</sup>	1892-1896	Ø James V Turner, Lupton & Co Ltd.	QV 1/-
4	P4930.01	PV/&C <sup>o</sup>	1885-1895	Pim, Vaughan & Co.	QV 6d

- **Judicial Stamps**- None have yet been reported.

### Postal Stationery.

- **Post Cards**



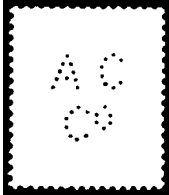
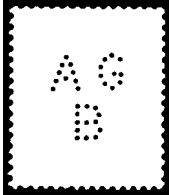
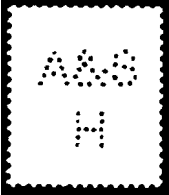
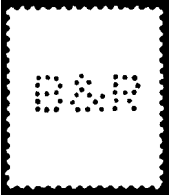
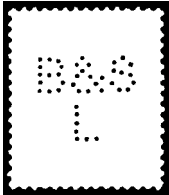
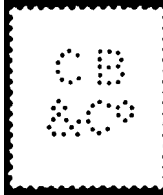
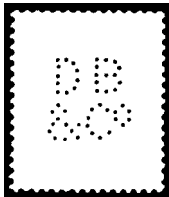
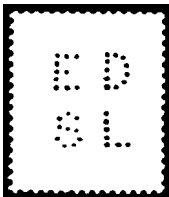
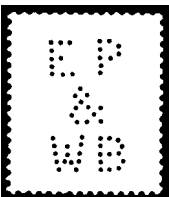
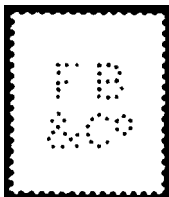
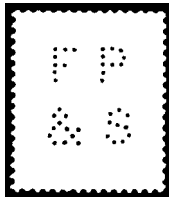
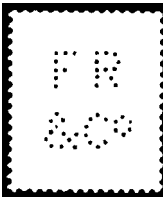
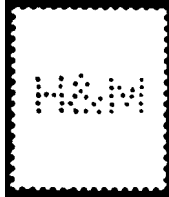
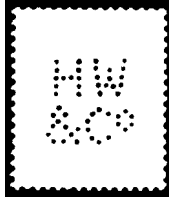
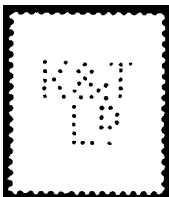
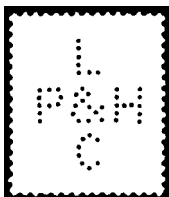
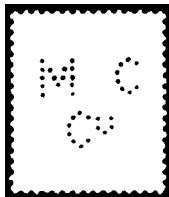
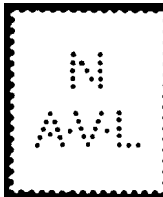
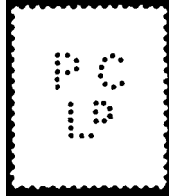
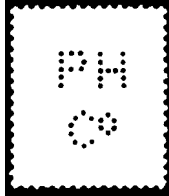
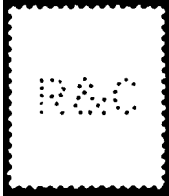
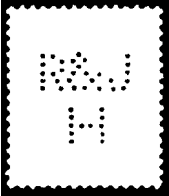
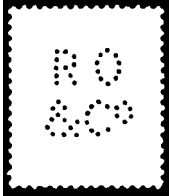
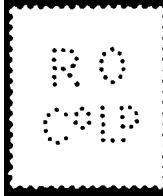
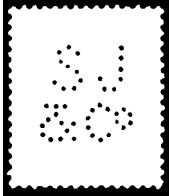
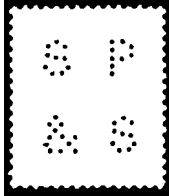
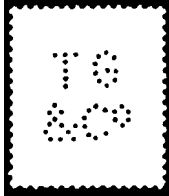
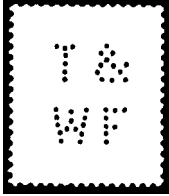
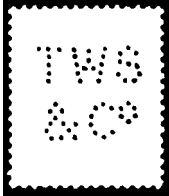
	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User	Stamp details
1	B6710.01A	B&S/L	1883-1935	Two users, but <i>probably</i> Backes & Strauss Ltd, London EC.	QV 1d (br) Type 3
2	B6730.03	B&S/L	1890-1895	Backes & Strauss Ltd, Diamond Merchants, London EC.	QV 1d (br) Type 3 QV 1d (red) Type 4
3	C6800.01a	C&S	1895-1915	User unknown. Postmarks London.	QV ½d Type n/k
4	R4820.03	R&S/L	1890-1930	Rylands & Sons Ltd, Warehousemen, London EC.	E7 1d (red)
5	T5190.01	TW&S/L <sup>d</sup> .	1895-1912	Ø Thomas Webb & Sons Ltd, Glass Manufacturers, Stourbridge.	QV 1d (red) Type 4

- Newspaper Wrappers

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User	Stamp details
1	A1100.01	AC/C <sup>o</sup>	1895-1905	Aldridge Colliery Co, Nr Walsall.	E7 ½d (gn)
2	A2510.01	AG/B	1890-1912	User n/k - postmarks London WC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
3	A5100.01	A&S/H	1895-1912	Ø Amos & Smith Ltd, Hull.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
4	B6130.05	B&R	1885-1890	User n/k - postmarks London.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
5	B6710.01A	B&S/L	1883-1935	Ø Backes & Strauss Ltd, London EC.	QV ½d (gn) Type 2
6	C0650.04	CB/&C <sup>o</sup>	1883-1905	User n/k - postmarks London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2 E7 ½d (gn)
7	D0350.01	DB/&C <sup>o</sup>	1890-1915	User n/k - various postmarks.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
8	E1155.01	ED/SL	c1902	User n/k - No postmark evidence.	E7 ½d (gn)
9	E3660.02	EP/&WB	1883-1890	User n/k - postmarks Stourport.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
10	F0300.08a	FB/&C <sup>o</sup>	1887-1895	Faithfull, Begg & Co, London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
11	F3350.01	FP/&C <sup>o</sup>	1882-1905	Faudel, Phillips & Sons, London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
12	F3520.01	FR/&C <sup>o</sup>	1895-1905	Ø Rosenstern & Co, Dundee.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
13	H4880.03	H&M	1895-1900	Ø Haslam & Makovski, London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
14	H7710.02	HW/&C <sup>o</sup>	1884-1897	Hitchcock, Williams & Co, London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
15	K1720.01	K&T/L <sup>d</sup>	1895-1912	Kearley & Tonge Ltd, London EC.	E7 ½d (gn)
16	L4500.01	L/P&H/C	1895-1936	Londonderry Port & Harbour Commission.	E7 ½d (gn)
17	M1190.01	MC/C <sup>o</sup>	1895-1905	User n/k - various postmarks.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
18	N0150.01	N/A V L	c1890	User n/k - no postmark evidence.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
19	P1070.01	PC/L <sup>d</sup>	1883-1885	User n/k - postmarks 'NPB', London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
20	P2340.01	PH/C <sup>o</sup>	1890-1905	Ø Philip Harris & Co Ltd, Birmingham.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
21	R0830.01a	R&C	1895-1905	Ø Richmond & Chandler Ltd.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
22	R2990.01	R&J/H	1903-1936	R & J Hill Ltd, London E1.	E7 ½d (gn)
23	R3805.01	RO/&C <sup>o</sup>	1880-1886	Ø Robert Owtram & Co, London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
24	R3810.02	RO/C <sup>o</sup> L <sup>d</sup>	1886-1895	Robert Owtram & Co Ltd, London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
25	S4040.01b	SJ/&C <sup>o</sup>	1903-1920	Samuel Jones & Co Ltd, Glasgow.	E7 ½d (gn)
26	S6070.01	SP/&S	1890-1903	User n/k - postmarks London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
27	T1890.01	TG/&C <sup>o</sup>	1883-1896	Thurbers, Gaytes & Co, London EC.	QV ½d (br) Type 2 QV 1d (red)
28	T5030.01a	T&WF	1890-1895	Ø T & W Farmiloe Ltd, London SW.	QV ½d (br) Type 2
29	T5160.01	TWS/&C <sup>o</sup>	1897-1917	Thomas Wilson Sons & Co Ltd, Hull.	QV ½d (br) Type 2

This list *will be added to* over time as more definitive information comes to light.

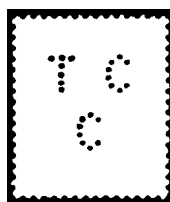
Illustrations of the dies involved are shown on the next page.

1895-1905 	1890-1912 	1895-1912 	1885-1890 	1883-1935 	1883-1905 
A1100.01	A2510.01	A5100.01	B6130.05	B6710.01A	C0650.04
1890-1915 	c1902 	1883-1890 	1887-1895 	1882-1905 	1895-1905 
D0350.01	E1155.01	E3660.02	F0300.08a	F3350.01	F3520.01
1895-1900 	1884-1897 	1895-1912 	1895-1936 	1895-1905 	c1900 
H4880.03	H7710.02	K1720.01	L4500.01	M1190.01	N0150.01
1883-1885 	1890-1905 	1895-1905 	1903-1936 	1880-1886 	1901-1906 
P1070.01	P2340.01	R0830.01a	R2990.01	R3805.01	R3810.02
1903-1920 	1890-1903 	1883-1896 	1890-1895 	1890-1917 	
S4040.01b	S6070.01	T1890.01	T5030.01a	T5160.01	

Note - "SJ/&C<sup>o</sup>" (S4040.01b) has been included from the 13-Pin Type Ia "&" study.

- **Envelopes**

1890-1905

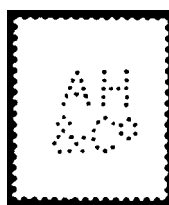


T0815.01

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User	Stamp details
1	T0815.01	TC/C	1895-1905	User n/k - postmarks Bute Docks, Cardiff.	E7 ½d (gn) Type 7

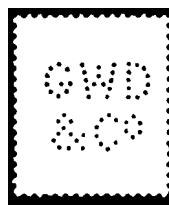
- **Telegraph Forms** - very few exist, but *two* have been reported with 'Braham' dies!

1885-1905



A2820.01

1890-1905



G5520.01

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	User	Stamp details
1	A2820.01	AH/&C <sup>o</sup>	1885-1905	User n/k - postmarks Exchange, Liverpool.	QV embossed 6d
2	G5520.01	GWD/&C <sup>o</sup>	1890-1905	Ø G W Dawes & Co, London EC.	QV embossed 6d

### Acknowledgements

In compiling this study I have drawn freely on the work of other collectors and researchers who, over the years, have been interested in some facet or other of Frank Braham. In particular I must thank the following individuals for their contributions:

Mike Burrows, Dilwyn Chambers, Phil Davey, Andy Donaldson, Maurice Harp,  
 Dave Hill, Charles Jennings, Meirion Lewis, John Mathews, Peter Maybury, Ron Mills,  
 John Nelson, Steve Netten, James Gavin Scott, Gary Shayler, Stephen Steere,  
 John Strange, Jeff Turnbull, Alastair Walter,  
 and to the Post Office Archives for making the relevant material available for research.

Roy Gault (Catalogue Editor), Burbage, *March 2015*.